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Serial No.: 09/901,024

Response to Office Action dated September 20, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A communication apparatus for accessing a server connected through a network and fetching data stored in the server, comprising:

setting means for setting times a time for accessing the server based on inputted starting time data, terminating time data, and number of times data or time interval data;

storage means for storing the <u>times set</u> time setting by the setting means on a weekly basis or daily basis; and

control means for determining the <u>times</u> time of accessing the server based on <u>the setting</u> data stored in the storage means and the present day of the week or date, and fetching data stored in the server by accessing the server at the determined <u>times</u> time.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The communication apparatus of claim 1, wherein the storage means stores a time <u>period</u> zone or date for inhibiting access to the server, and the control means makes no access to the server, based on <u>the setting</u> data stored in the storage means, <u>during in</u> the access-inhibited time <u>period</u> zone or date.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The communication apparatus of claim 1, wherein the storage means sets and stores the access <u>times</u> on a day of the week basis or date basis for plural servers, and the control means <u>accesses each of the plural servers</u> gets access on the basis of the <u>setting</u> data stored in the storage means to each of the plural servers.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The communication apparatus of claim 2, wherein the storage means sets and stores an access-inhibited time <u>period</u> zone or date for each of plural servers, and the control means accesses each of the plural servers according to the <u>setting</u> data stored in the storage means.

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Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A communication apparatus for accessing a server connected through a network and fetching data stored in the server comprising:

setting means for determining an access times time to the server on the basis of inputted starting time data, terminating time data, and number of times data or time interval data;

storage means for storing the <u>times</u> time set by the setting means and a time <u>period</u> zone for inhibiting access to the server; and

control means for determining the access <u>times</u> time to the server on the basis of <u>the setting</u> data stored in the storage means, and fetching data stored in the server by accessing the server at the determined <u>times</u> time, <u>wherein during</u> and <u>getting in</u> the access-inhibited time <u>period</u> zone, no access to the server <u>is made</u> on the basis of the setting data stored in the storage means.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The communication apparatus of claim 5, wherein the storage means stores the access <u>times</u> time and the access-inhibited time <u>period</u> zone for each of plural servers, and the control means determines the access <u>times</u> time to each of the plural servers on the basis of the setting data stored in the storage means.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): A communication apparatus for accessing a server connected through a network and fetching data stored in the server comprising:

setting means for determining an access times time to the server on the basis of inputted starting time data, terminating time data and number of times data;

storage means for storing the <u>times</u> time determined by the setting means; and control means for accessing the server at the <u>times</u> time stored in the storage means and fetching data stored in the server,

wherein the setting means determines the <u>times</u> for accessing the server by avoiding any access-inhibited time <u>periods</u> zones to the server when the access-inhibited time <u>periods</u> zones have been inputted.

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Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The communication apparatus of claim 7, wherein the setting means determines the access <u>times</u> time to each <u>of plural servers</u> server by avoiding each inhibiting time <u>period</u> zone inputted for each of the plural servers, and the control means accesses each of the plural servers on the basis of the setting data stored in the storage means.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): A communication apparatus able to be connected to the Internet through a server connected through a public line network comprising:

recalling means for repeating a connecting request to a desired calling destination when no connection to this calling destination can be performed; and setting means for individually setting a repeating interval of the connection request by the recalling means depending on whether when the desired calling destination

is a server or not.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The communication apparatus of claim 9, wherein the setting means sets the repeating interval of the <u>connection</u> eonnecting request by the recalling means for every individual server when plural connectable servers exist.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): A communication apparatus able to be connected to the Internet through a server connected through a public line network comprising:

automatic receiving means for fetching data stored in the server by periodically performing connection to the server; and

recalling means for repeating a connection request to a desired calling destination when no connection to this calling destination can be performed,

wherein in a repeating state of the <u>connection</u> eonnecting request to the desired calling destination, the recalling means stops the repetition of the <u>connection</u> eonnecting

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request to the desired calling destination being executed when the automatic receiving means is fetching the data.

Claim 12 (New): A communication apparatus connectable to a storage device, comprising:

an input section for receiving user inputs of schedule data comprising a connection attempt start time, a connection attempt end time, and number of connection attempts data for determining a number of connection attempts between the start time and end time;

a storage section for storing a schedule for attempting to connect to the storage device based on the input schedule data; and

a control section that automatically attempts to connect to the storage device at times based on the schedule and, if a connection is made, fetches data from the storage device.

Claim 13 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the schedule data further comprises inhibit data and the schedule includes one or more time periods during which attempts to connect to the storage device are inhibited based on the inhibit data.

Claim 14 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the control section automatically determines the schedule based on the start time, the end time, and the number of connection attempts data.

Claim 15 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein, if no connection is made at a schedule time, the control section re-attempts to connect to the storage device at one or more times prior to a next schedule time.

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Claim 16 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the frequency of the re-attempts is based at least in part on whether the storage device is embodied in a server.

Claim 17 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the re-attempts are ended at the next schedule time.

Claim 18 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, embodied in a facsimile apparatus.

Claim 19 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, embodied in an internet telephone system.

Claim 20 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, embodied in a multimedia communication apparatus.

Claim 21 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the schedule is based on days of the week.

Claim 22 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 21, wherein an inhibit flag designates whether or not connection attempts are inhibited on one or more days of the week.

Claim 23 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the schedule is based on dates.

Claim 24 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 23, wherein an inhibit flag designates whether connection attempts are inhibited on one or more of the dates.

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Claim 25 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, which is connectable to at least one other storage device, wherein the storage section stores respective schedules for attempting to connect to each of the other storage devices.

Claim 26 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the number of connection attempts data comprises an interval of time between successive schedule times.

Claim 27 (New): The communication apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the fetched data comprises e-mail.

Claim 28 (New): A communication system comprising one or more communication apparatus according to claim 12, and a server.

Claim 29 (New): A method for connecting to a server over a network to fetch data therefrom, the method comprising:

receiving user inputs of schedule data comprising a connection attempt start time, a connection attempt end time and number of connection attempts data for determining a number of connection attempts between the start time and end time;

storing a schedule based on the input schedule data; and automatically attempting to connect to the server at times based on the schedule and, if a connection is made, fetching data from the server.

Claim 30 (New): A storage device storing computer-executable instructions for performing the method of claim 29.